

Mortality - Death information pertaining to causes, dates, time, place, and sociodemographic characteristics of decedents.

Perinatal Transmission - The intra-uterine transmission of HIV infection from mother to child.

Predictor - A variable that withstands statistical tests of significance to link up with the pneumonia being studied in a correlational, and possible cause-effect, relationship.

Prevalence - The number of individuals or cases who have a particular disease or condition at a particular time.

Rate - The number of cases in a given period of time within a given population group, often expressed as cases per 100,000 population for rare events like HIV/AIDS.

Rate Ratio - Similar to the "relative risk", it is the ratio of the incidence rate for the people exposed to a disease or risk factor, to the incidence rate for people not exposed to the disease or risk factor.

Reporting Lag - The period between the time HIV/AIDS is diagnosed and the time this diagnosis is reported to the local, state, or national surveillance system.

Seroconversion - A change in HIV-antibody status from HIV-negative to HIV-positive.

Seroprevalence - A measure of the prevalence of HIV infection among selected populations.

Seroreversion - A change in HIV-antibody status from HIV-positive to HIV-negative, often used in reference to perinatally exposed infants.

SMSA - Standardized Metropolitan Statistical Areas - An integrated economic and social unit with a recognized large population nucleus, usually a central city of at least 50,000 population or an urbanized area of at least 50,000 population.

Sociodemographic - A broad range of characteristics of populations, including social, economic, and racial/ethnic characteristics.

Surveillance - On-going process of information collection, analysis, interpretation, and dissemination to monitor the occurrence of specific health problems in populations.

Unlinked Survey - A blinded, i.e. anonymous, study targeting a specific sub-population believed to be at high risk of infection (e.g., for HIV) to determine prevalence and other characteristics, conducted at clinical sites where blood and risk information is collected uniformly from all clients.

Western blot - A blood test used to detect HIV antibodies, often used as a confirmatory test.